

Minutes of Adjourned Special Meeting of January 22, 2018 (Council Vacancy interviews)
One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 360, Belmont, CA

CALL TO ORDER 3:08 P.M.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Hurt, Stone, Lieberman, Kim

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: None

Interview Candidates for City Council

Council candidates Tom McCune and Craig Michaels were interviewed.

RECESS: 4:45 P.M.

RECONVENE: 5:00 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin Burke, Belmont resident, noted that all are good candidates. He noted that many people are interested in purchasing property in Belmont. He stated that Commissioner Mates is the best applicant.

Sam Hosmer, Belmont resident, stated that the City of Belmont needs affirmative policies for residential zoning. He noted that Candidate McCune stated that Belmont's residential zoning is adequate. He commented regarding the facilitation of meeting participation by the public.

Councilmember Stone commented regarding Candidate Kaspi's energy, and noted that he will suggest that Mr. Kaspi apply for a commission seat. He stated he preferred to appoint someone with more of a track record. He noted that Candidate Mates brings a unique perspective. He also noted that all four candidates interviewed could do the job. He pointed out that he is looking for someone who fits former Councilmember Reed the most. He commented that Candidate McCune has a body of experience, and Candidate Michaels has made a good contribution, has energy, and is innovative. He said that it is important that the appointee run for the office in November.

Councilmember Hurt stated she is interested in appointing someone who is invested in the City's success and understands how to move forward. She pointed out that she looked at both traditional and nontraditional paths. She also pointed out that she had originally supported interviewing more applicants. She noted that all four candidates could fit well. She stated she is leaning towards Candidates Mates and McCune. She noted that Candidate Michaels has done well on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Councilmember Lieberman stated that Candidates Mates or McCune are likely choices, and he could also support Candidate Michaels. He expressed support for Candidate Kaspi getting involved at another level. He noted that Candidate McCune gave the most succinct answers.

Mayor Kim commented regarding all the candidates. He noted that Mr. McCune and Ms. Mates are likely the final candidates.

Councilmember Stone stated that he is leaning towards Candidate Mates and he noted that gender is an issue. He pointed out that when one is faced with equal candidates, women are underrepresented in elected positions.

Councilmember Lieberman pointed out that Candidate McCune lives in the Hallmark neighborhood, which is a newer and unique neighborhood that which is underrepresented on the City Council. He commented that Candidate McCune's TVA (Tennessee Valley Authority) experience brings unique perspective.

Councilmember Hurt stated that she is leaning towards Candidate Mates. She stated that she represents an important voice at this time, and is at ease when talking to people.

Mayor Kim noted that the two candidates offer different things from each other. He described the skillset of both Candidate Mates and Candidate McCune. He stated he is leaning towards Candidate McCune.

Discussion ensued.

RECESS: 6:15 P.M.
RECONVENE: 6:30 P.M.

Council concurred to adjourn this meeting to Tuesday, January 23, 2018, following adjournment of the regular meeting of that evening for continued discussion and deliberation.

ADJOURNMENT at this time, being 6:45 P.M. to Tuesday, January 23, 2018

Terri Cook
City Clerk

Meeting audio recorded but not videotaped.